

TALK OF FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN ON JULY 20 1937  
CONCERNING FIRE DISCHARGED BY CHINESE TROOPS  
UPON JAPANESE SENTINELS NEAR WU-LITEN.

(Issued on July 20 as of 5.00 p.m.)

Since July 19 the Chinese repeatedly fired upon Japanese sentinels posted near Wu-litien (about 2 kilometres east of Lukouchiao), injuring the commander of our company. For three times -- at 9 o'clock and 4 o'clock p.m. the Chinese attacked the Japanese position with trench-mortars, but the Japanese did not return the fire. On the 20th the Chinese still continued their provocative action, and at 2 o'clock p.m. they sent a heavy shower of cannon, rifle and machine-gun shots upon our position, and compelled our force to reply. The fighting is now in progress. However, we are employing only artillery force and no infantry has been put to action.

Before commencing bombardment we sent airplanes to distribute handbills warning the inhabitants of the vicinity to evacuate.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 1 page and entitled "Talk of Foreign Office Spokesman on July 20, 1937, concerning Japanese Sentinels near Wu-Litien." is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,  
on this 8th day of April 1947.

K. Hayashi  
Signature of Official

Witness: K. Urabe

五里店附近日本軍歩哨に對する支那側の發砲に關し  
一九三七年七月二十日陸軍省情報部長談

(七月二十日午後五時附發表)

七月十九日以来支那側は五里店(蘆海橋東方約二キロ)附近に配置せられたる我歩哨に對し急返し發砲し我中隊長を負傷せしめた。午後四時及九時の三回に亘り支那側は迫撃砲を以て我陣地を攻撃したが我方は之に應射しなかつた。二十日に至り支那側は依然として其挑発的行動を繼續し午後二時には我陣地に對し大砲、小銃、機銃の連射を浴びせ我方をして應射するの止むを得に至らしめた。我側は目下鎮靜中である。然しながら我方は砲兵のみを用ひ居り歩兵はなほ未だ行動を開始し居らず。

砲撃開始に先ち我方は飛行機を以てピラを撒布し附近住民に對し立退くよう警告したり。